

was, not without reason, the object of their
 bitterest hatred.
 In his behaviour on a field of battle malice
 itself could find
 little to censure : but there were other parts
 of his conduct
 which presented a fair mark for obloquy.
 Avarice is rarely
 the vice of a young man : it is rarely the vice
 of a great
 man : but Marlborough was one of the few
 who have, in
 the bloom of youth, loved lucre more than wine
 or women,
 and who have, at the height of greatness,
 loved lucre more
 than power or fame. All the precious gifts
 which nature
 had lavished on him he valued chiefly for what
 they would
 fetch. At twenty he made money of his
 beauty and his
 vigour. At sixty he made money of his genius
 and his
 glory. The applauses which were justly due to
 his conduct
 at Walcourt could not altogether drown the
 voices of those
 who muttered that, whenever a broad piece
 was to be
 saved or got, this hero was a mere Euclio, a
 mere Har-
 pagon ; that, though he drew a large
 allowance under
 pretence of keeping a public table, he never
 asked an
 officer to dinner ; that his muster rolls were
 fraudulently
 made up ; that he pocketed pay in the names
 of men who
 had long been dead, of men who had been
 killed in his own
 sight four years before at Sedgemoor ; that
 there were
 twenty such names in one troop ; that there
 were thirty-
 six in another. Nothing but the union of
 dauntless courage
 and commanding powers of mind with a bland
 temper and
 winning manners could have enabled him to
 gain and keep,
 in spite of faults eminently unsoldierlike, the

good will of
his soldiers.¹

The authority given in the note is ' See the
Dear Bargain a Jacobite pamphlet clandestinely
printed in 1690.'
Anyone who likes can see the Dear Bargain ;
it is re-
printed in the Somers Tracts.² The reader will
find there
charges of just the same kind against
William. For
instance the pamphleteer accuses him of
contriving the
death of English soldiers in his army by
sending them to

¹IV, 1702-4 (xiv).

³ X, 349-77-